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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 21 April 1952

SUBJECT Organization of Independent Battalions
East China

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25X1X SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.RETURN TO CIA
OFFICE

On 1 February 1952, the East China Military Area Command ordered military districts within its jurisdiction to organize independent battalions from the better militiamen for training as replacements. The order included the following points:

- a. During the first quarter of 1952, a total of 22,500 new recruits would be selected from the best qualified militiamen of the military districts for training.
- b. Each military sub-district would select 500 men, assemble them at its headquarters, and organize them into an independent battalion. After receiving five months of education on practical subjects, they would await orders for assignment as reinforcements to field army or military district troop units.¹
- c. The military districts would assign designations to these independent battalions. For example, the independent battalions of the eight military sub-districts in Fukien Military District would be designated Fukien Military District Independent 1 Battalion through Fukien Military District Independent 8 Battalion.
- d. These independent battalions would receive staple food, subsidiary food, and other treatment equivalent to Ration System Grade 2 for the local forces.²
- e. These independent battalions would have to be completely organized by 15 March 1952.

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1. Comment. This will make 45 independent battalions with a total of 22,500 men.
2. Comment. Ration System Grade 2 is for military district troop units on garrison duty, while Ration System Grade 1 is for those on combat duty. Grade 2 has one or two ounces less of staple food and allows \$300 to \$400 less to purchase subsidiary food per day than Grade 1.

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